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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/13/2018 TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV UNSC MR UV</u>

SUBJECT: BURKINA FASO: SUPPORTS UNSC STATEMENT ON MAURITANIA

REF: A) SECSTATE 86518; B) OUAGADOUGOU 735

Classified by Charge d'Affaires Joann Lockard for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) On August 12, Poloff delivered reftel A demarche to Diuedonne Sougouri, Director of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Sougouri recalled Burkina Faso's position, as stated in earlier conversations between the Charge d'Affaires and the MFA Chief of Staff (reftel B). Sougouri noted that Burkina Faso supported the African Union (AU) suspension of Mauritania. (Note: Burkina Faso is a member of the AU Peace and Security Council, and as a member, voted in favor of the suspension. End Note.) Furthermore, Sougouri said the GOBF would support a similar multilateral initiative in the Security Council. However, the GOBF will need to study the issue further before deciding to introduce or co-sponsor the proposed Presidential statement. Sougouri promised to keep Post informed.

LOCKARD